

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A system for displaying data transfer rates on a display comprising:

a system for displaying the transfer rates in an alphanumeric mode or an alternative graphics mode; and

a system for switching between displaying the transfer rates in the alphanumeric mode and the graphics mode.

2. A system for displaying data transfer rates as in claim 1 wherein the system for switching comprises a keypad on a portable radio communication device.

3. A system for displaying the data transfer rates as in claim 1 wherein the system for displaying the transfer rates in the alphanumeric or graphics mode comprises means for displaying transmitting rates and receiving rates.

4. A system for displaying the data transfer rates as in claim 1 wherein the system for switching comprises a menu selectable feature displayed on the display.

5. A system for displaying the data transfer rates as in claim 1 further comprising a system for inactivating display of the data transfer rate on the display.

6. A system for displaying the data transfer rates as in claim 1 wherein the system for switching comprises means for not displaying the transfer rates in either the alphanumeric mode or the graphics mode.

7. A mobile radio telephone comprising:

a display;

a transceiver; and

a controller coupled to the display and the transceiver,

wherein the controller further comprises the system for displaying data transfer rates as recited in claim 1.

8. In a mobile radio communication device having a display and a transceiver for transmitting and receiving data, the improvement comprising:

means for displaying a data transfer rate of data with the transceiver on the display in an alphanumeric format.

9. A mobile radio communication device as in claim 8 further comprising

means for displaying the data transfer rate on the display in a graphical format, and

means for switching between the alphanumeric format and the graphical format.

10. A mobile radio communication device as in claim 9 wherein the means for switching comprises a user actuatable keypad.

11. A mobile radio communication device comprising:

a transceiver;

a controller coupled to the transceiver;

a display coupled to the controller, wherein the controller is adapted to display on the display a data transfer rate of data by the transceiver; and

a system for inactivating display of the data transfer rate on the display while the transceiver is transmitting or receiving the data.

12. A mobile radio communication device as in claim 11 wherein the controller is adapted to display the data transfer rate in either an alphanumeric format or a graphical format.

13. A mobile radio communication device as in claim 12 further comprising a system for allowing a user to switch between display of the data transfer rate in either the alphanumeric format or the graphical format.

14. A mobile radio communication device as in claim 13 wherein the system for allowing a user to switch between display formats comprises a menu selectable feature.

15. A mobile radio communication device as in claim 14 wherein the menu selectable feature also allows the user to activate the system for inactivating display of the data transfer rate.

16. A mobile radio communication device as in claim 11 wherein the system for inactivating display comprises a menu selectable feature.

17. A method of displaying a data transfer rate on a display, the method comprising steps of:

selecting, by a user, a data transfer rate display mode from a plurality of data transfer rate display modes; and

displaying the data transfer rate on the display based upon the selected data transfer rate display mode.

18. A method as in claim 17 wherein the plurality of data transfer rate display modes comprises an alphanumeric display mode and a graphical display mode.

19. A method as in claim 18 wherein the plurality of data transfer rate display modes further comprises an OFF display mode which prevents displaying of the data transfer rate on the display.

20. A method as in claim 17 wherein the step of selecting a data transfer rate display mode comprises selecting the display mode from a menu of available display modes displayed on the display.

21. A method of changing displaying of a data transfer rate on a display of a portable communication device, the method comprising steps of:

selecting, by a user, to turn a displaying feature of the data transfer rate ON or OFF; and

during data transfer by the portable communication device, a controller of the portable communication device, connected to the display, preventing the display from displaying the data transfer rate when the user has selected to turn the displaying feature OFF.